

Message Text

SECRET

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THE SECRETARY (SECTO 25024)

S/S-O:MTANNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 001461

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, US, OAU

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY FOR OAU SECGEN

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1) PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM THE
SECRETARY TO OAU SECRETARY GENERAL ETEKI AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE.

QTE: DEAR MR. SECRETARY GENERAL:

I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM YOU
THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAS JUST SENT LETTERS TO
MANY HEADS OF OAU MEMBER STATES CONVEYING TO
THEM OUR VIEWS ON THE ANGOLAN PROBLEM. IN
THESE LETTERS THE PRESIDENT STATED THAT THE
OBJECTIVE OF US POLICY IN ANGOLA HAS BEEN TO
COUNTER EFFORTS BY THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA
TO IMPOSE A MINORITY FACTION AS THE GOVERNMENT
OF ANGOLA. HE REITERATED THAT WE HAVE REFRAINED

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FROM RECOGNIZING ANY FACTION AS THE GOVERNMENT,

HAVE OFTEN CALLED FOR AN END TO ALL FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND HAVE REPEATEDLY STATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH SUCH AN ENDEAVOR.

PRESIDENT FORD STRESSED OUR DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE TO RESIST THIS EXTENSION OF SOVIET POWER BUT ASSURED THE HEADS OF STATE THAT WE DO NOT SEEK THE DESTRUCTION OR THE DEFEAT OF THE MPLA, ONLY THE EMERGENCE OF A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY TRULY REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL FACTIONS. HE STATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE RECONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLA WHEN SUCH A GOVERNMENT IS ESTABLISHED.

ON SOUTH AFRICA, MR. FORD STATED THAT WE IN NO WAY SOUGHT OR ENCOURAGED THE SOUTH AFRICANS TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ANGOLA. WE HAVE NOT INITIATED ANY CONSULTATION WITH THEM AND OUR ARMS EMBARGO REMAINS IN EFFECT. THE PRESIDENT STRESSED THAT WE SHARE AFRICA'S CONCERN OVER THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRESENCE AND DESIRE IT TO END QUICKLY, JUST AS WE DESIRE THAT THE SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION CEASE. HE PROMISED WE WOULD USE ALL OUR EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IN THE CONTEXT OF A WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN FORCES.

THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS BELIEF THAT THE OAU SUMMIT MEETING CAN PROMOTE AN EARLY END TO THE FIGHTING AND A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE CIVIL WAR. IN ADDITION, HE HOPED THE OAU WILL INSIST UPON A PROMPT END TO ALL FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT, ARRANGE A STANDSTILL CEASE FIRE AND NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THE THREE FACTIONS. HE PROMISED THE US GOVERNMENT WOULD SUPPORT SUCH AN INITIATIVE AND COOPERATE WITH IT, PROVIDED OTHER DISTANT POWERS DO SO AS WELL.

I BELIEVE THE PRESIDENT'S LETTERS SET FORTH A REASONABLE POLICY THAT IS SUPPORTIVE OF THE
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OAU'S STATED OBJECTIVE OF ENDING THE FIGHTING AND ESTABLISHING A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY IN ANGOLA. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WISHES TO BE OF ASSISTANCE IN ACHIEVING THESE COMMON GOALS AND I INVITE YOUR VIEWS ON HOW WE MAY HELP. SINCERELY, HENRY A. KISSINGER. INGERSOLL

SUBJECT TEL REISSUED WITH UPGRADE CAPTION PER STATE 001465

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